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(54) **Obscurement device**

(57) An illumination obscurement device for controlling the obscurement of illumination from a light source which is optimized for use with a rectangular, arrayed, selective reflection device. In a preferred embodiment, a rotatable shutter (500) with three positions (504, 510, 516) is placed between a light source (602) and a DMD (604). The first position of the shutter is a mask (504), preferably an out of focus circle. This out of focus circle creates a circular mask and changes any unwanted dim reflection to a circular shape. The second position of the shutter is completely open (510), allowing substantially all the light to pass. The third position of the shutter is completely closed (514), blocking substantially all the light from passing. By controlling the penumbra illumination surrounding the desired illumination, DMDs (604) can be used in illumination devices without creating undesirable rectangular penumbras (628).

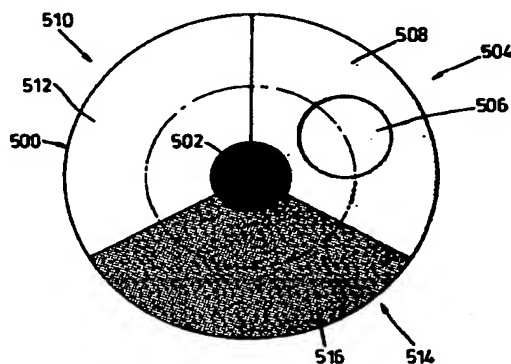


Fig. 5

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 5217

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.7)
X	US 4 890 208 A (IZENOUR GEORGE C) 26 December 1989 (1989-12-26) * column 5, line 28-38 * * column 6, line 5-44 * * column 9, line 13-23; figures 3,5,6 *	1,3-7, 10-14,19	F21W131/406 F21V14/04 F21V14/08
X	US 5 633 755 A (MANABE YUJI ET AL) 27 May 1997 (1997-05-27) * column 1, line 42-55 * * column 3, line 9-13 * * column 3, line 27-35 * * column 5, line 29-41; figures 2-6 *	1-3,8, 13,15, 18,19, 22,23	
Y	-----	9,16	
X	US 4 257 086 A (GULLIKSEN JOHN E) 17 March 1981 (1981-03-17) * column 2, line 1-11; figures 4-6 *	17	
A	US 5 629 801 A (BLOOM DAVID M ET AL) 13 May 1997 (1997-05-13) * column 1, line 63 - column 2, line 19; figure 1 *	1,13	TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 16 March 2001	Examiner Busto, M
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X: particularly relevant if taken alone Y: particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A: technological background O: non-written disclosure P: intermediate document</p> <p>T: theory or principle underlying the invention E: earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D: document cited in the application L: document cited for other reasons &: member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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